General Psychology
Course Syllabus

**COURSE TITLE**
General Psychology

**COURSE NUMBER**
PSY2012

**PREREQUISITES**
English Composition I with a grade of “C”, or ACT Reading 018 and ACT English 017, or CPT-R 083 and CPT-L 083, or SAT I Verbal - Enhanced 440, or FCAT Reading 355

**CREDIT HOURS**
3.0

**CONTACT HOURS**
45

**CLASS MEETING TIMES**
Online course: no meeting times

This course is designed as an online course and therefore there are no on-campus meeting dates required. A student may access the course on the first day of class at: [http://online.fkcc.edu](http://online.fkcc.edu). If the student has difficulty in logging in to the course or the student does not see the course listed, contact the Office of Distance Learning helpline at 305-809-3177 or e-mail to D2lhelp@fkcc.edu for assistance.

**Synchronous Office Hours**- Check the Announcement section of the course for synchronous office hour times.

**Announcements**- Announcements from the instructor will be posted on the announcements page. To access click on "Announcements" under Course Tools.

**INSTRUCTOR**
Dr. Katheryn Eads, PhD
Katheryn.eads@fkcc.edu
Office: Online Chatroom
Cell: 305-890-6383

**OFFICE HOURS**
Virtual Office Hours: Tuesdays from 11:00 to 1:00.
I will not have standard office hours on campus over the summer term. Should you like to meet with me please email or call to set an appointment.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**
An introduction to psychology which exposes students to historical and current discoveries about the mind and behavior. Topics include: history of psychology, methods, psychobiology, and brain research. Sensation and perception, consciousness and altered states, motivation, learning, cognition and memory, language, intelligence, creativity, personality, abnormal psychology, therapies and social psychology.
COURSE OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this course, student will be able to:

- Identify the significant characteristics of each major psychological theory.
- Discuss the role of research in the development of psychology as a science.
- Explain the biological basis of behavior.
- Explain the biological basis of behavior and how it relates to cognition.
- Explain the biological basis of behavior and how it relates to motivation and emotion.
- Explain the cognition of stress and coping.
- Describe the major approaches to human learning.
- Discuss the influences of the social environment on the individual.
- Describe how our behavior & mental processes change by being a member of a group.
- Apply knowledge of psychology to their own life & to what they learn in other courses.
- Learn to think critically about psychological issues and human behavior.

REQUIRED MATERIALS:
Psychology, 11th ed.
Prentice Hall
Wade, Tavris, & Garry
978-020525431-6

PROPOSED COURSE SCHEDULE

Please note: The course schedule is subject to change to meet the needs of the course and its students. If you miss a class, it is YOUR responsibility to stay current.

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<td>Chapter 1: What is Psychology</td>
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<td>Chapter 2: How Psychologists Do Research</td>
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<td>Ethics in Research Assignment</td>
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<td>Chapter 3: Genes, Evolution &amp; Environment</td>
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<td>Human Genome Assignment</td>
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<td>Chapter 5: Body Rhythms &amp; Mental States</td>
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<td>5/26- 6/1</td>
<td>Chapter 6: Sensation &amp; Perception</td>
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<td>Chapter 7: Learning and Conditioning</td>
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<td>12</td>
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STUDENT EVALUATION AND COURSE POLICIES

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<td>Course Assignments</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Weekly Discussions</td>
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<td>Weekly Quizzes</td>
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<td>1%</td>
<td>Paper Topic</td>
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<td>Course Paper</td>
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<td>5%</td>
<td>Final</td>
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<td>100%</td>
<td>Total Grade (1000 total points)</td>
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Exam Policy

1. I recommend the following general process for studying each chapter:
   a. Read each chapter once to get an idea of its contents.
   b. Read the chapter carefully, ensuring you understand each concept.
   c. Use the PowerPoint/chapter notes to supplement the textbook.
   d. Use the online study materials available at textbook site through Pearson. You should be able to provide a detailed explanation for each item in the study guide. These will cover just about every concept that may appear on a test. Make sure you understand the reasons behind each correct answer.
   e. If you can provide a detailed explanation for every item in the study guide and you understand the reasons behind the all of the correct answers in the review games, you will be well prepared for the tests in this class.

2. A total of eleven quizzes will be given during the term. Quizzes are DUE BY Sunday OF EACH WEEK. The actual due dates for each quiz can be located in the course calendar. Each quiz will consist of 20 multiple choice questions reviewing the week’s materials. Quizzes cannot be rescheduled or made up. You have an entire week to complete each quiz, there is no reason you should not be able to complete it. You will have 30 minutes to complete each quiz.

3. The final exam is timed and questions will be challenging. You should study as if the exams were closed book, because you won’t have time to look up every answer. If you have to look up more than a few answers, you will run out of time.

4. The final exam will be given in unit twelve and will consist of 100 questions; covering all material from the course. Questions will be multiple choice. My goal is to test what you have learned, not what you can look up.

Communications: The online format of this class puts a premium on communications. The prime responsibility for timely communications rests with you - the student. This course will utilize the following methods:

DISCUSSION FORUMS: Each week under the discussion tab, there will be at least one discussion question to which you are to post an initial response by Wednesday. Make sure that you click on the “respond” button immediately after the question. DO NOT post an attached word document for your discussion. You are to place your discussion response directly into the discussion so everyone can read it. There are very distinct expectations for completion of the discussions. First and foremost- Discussion board messages must be posted before the deadlines in the Course Calendar to count toward your participation grade. This includes BOTH the discussion question response and the replies to your peers. This is not a self-paced course; you are expected
to maintain a pace along with the class as a whole! You are to make appropriate comments; for maximum point you are also to respond to at least two other student’s response that week. You should also check to see who has responded to your comments and respond to this person if it is appropriate to do so. These responses are also to be thought revealing – they are more than “I agree” or “I disagree.” You are expected to provide quality insight citing and documenting your references, in order to demonstrate an understanding of the weekly topic and provide original thought in the posts. Cutting and pasting from the text, websites, or providing a response with limited substance will receive a significantly reduced grade. As with all activities in this class, quality counts and your postings need to add value to the discussion.

Late participation in discussions will result in a maximum score of 50% for the discussion. Participation in a discussion after the end of the unit is like walking into a lecture hall after a lecture and expecting to gain from it. Replies to your peers after the close of the unit are not likely to be read; and being such do not add substance to the conversation in the courseroom. Therefore you will not receive credit for such posts.

You are expected to respond to A MINIMUM of TWO of your peers for EACH discussion in the course. If you do not do so you will not receive full credit for the unit. Additionally, your posts must occur throughout the week, NOT ALL IN ONE DAY. Posting only in one day will result in a loss of points for the discussion. **

Additional information about discussions guidelines can be found under the class participation section of this syllabus.

In addition, most questions about class policies and subject matter should be posted in the discussion forum to allow the entire class to benefit from the question and the answer. Additionally, at times there will be important information published to the class via the Announcements section, such as changes in due dates, exam information, etc. The student is responsible for all information published here.

Occasionally, time-sensitive announcements will be posted in the Announcements section. The student should log on to D2L 3-4 times each week to check for time-sensitive messages. Before the student posts a question, look through the Discussion Board. That same question may have already been asked and answered.

EMAIL: I will be checking my email daily, with the exception of holidays and weekends. Please email me your questions before attempting to reach me by phone.

What can the student expect from your instructor?
The instructor will log into D2L and check for messages at least once per day, not including weekends and holidays. If the student has an urgent message for the instructor, do not post the same message both on a Discussion Forum and in an email. Doing both will waste the students time and will not result in the instructor getting the message any faster. If the instructor expects to be out of contact for more than a couple of days, they will inform the class via the Announcement section.

Important Note: If the instructor has not responded to a student email or voicemail message by the end of the day after the student left the message, the student should assume that the instructor did not receive it and leave another message.

Logging Off From D2L
In order to better serve our faculty and students, all D2L users should click the “Logout “link when completing online course work. By logging off instead of just closing the internet browser window, D2L server space is freed and system performance is optimized. In addition, logging off will more accurately record each student’s time logged into the online course?

Late Work
1. Any assignment not submitted by the specified date is considered late, unless you have contacted me and I have approved an extension in advance.
2. **Assignments will be accepted late** with penalties. If turned in within one week late a 10 point penalty will be assessed. **Submissions over a week late will be accepted for half credit. Assignments more than one month late will not be accepted.**

3. No assignments due during the last week of classes will be accepted late to allow me to submit the course grades to the college on time.

4. **Internet connection problems are not an acceptable excuse for late work.** You should have a plan in place for internet access in case your primary method is unavailable. I strongly recommend submitting assignments at least one full day early to allow time to recover from technical problems.

5. If you are unable to access the online classroom due to a College server outage on the date that an assignment is due, the following guidelines apply. If I have not heard from you before the deadline I will not waive the late penalty described above.
   a. Send me an internet email before the assignment is due and attach the assignment to the email if applicable.
   b. If you don’t have access to the internet, leave a message at the phone number listed at the top of the Syllabus.
   c. If there is a problem with the D2L server that prevents completing an exam or quiz D2L support will notify me and I will make a reasonable accommodation and publish the information in the online classroom as soon as I am able to log on myself.

6. If you are out of contact and miss a deadline due to an extenuating circumstance, I expect you to contact me as soon as possible to discuss the situation. No exceptions will be made to the above policies unless you can provide documentation of the situation that I consider adequate.

**Class Participation**

Class participation is a combination of discussions and online assignments. The online discussion component is defined as posting a minimum number of substantial, separate, and distinct messages to the various Discussion Forums. These discussion board messages must be posted before the deadlines in the Course Calendar to count toward the student’s participation grade.

**For the purposes of this class, a substantial online posting must:**

1. Provide a good explanation of a concept or concepts related to the material discussed in the forum, or give a good example of how a concept can be applied, or provide an insightful response to a previous post.

2. Be factually correct. The post should help your classmates, and yourself, learn the material.

3. **Be at least 150 words in length.** Messages that do not meet this length requirement will earn only a small amount of partial credit.

4. Have acceptable spelling and grammar. Although this is not a writing class, this is College. Students should get into the habit of writing complete sentences that are grammatically correct. Take advantage of the spell check feature in D2L.

5. Do your own work. Do not plagiarize from any source (internet, textbook, etc) as the body of your post. Study the concept, and then express it in the student’s own words. Make certain to cite and document references.

Other key points:

1. Only messages that meet all of the requirements of a substantial post listed above will earn full credit for participation.

2. It is acceptable (and encouraged!) for more than one student to respond to the same message. The best way to be sure you understand a topic is to try to explain it to someone else.

3. Please use the discussion forums to ask all of the questions you have about the class material. The instructor wants students to ask a lot of questions, and these questions will contribute to the class participation grade.
4. Off-topic messages will not count toward the participation grade.

5. If the final average is on the borderline (meaning less than 1 point) between two letter grades, active participation (posting several messages to each forum, on average) will work to the student’s advantage as the instructor decides which of the two letter grades the student has earned. This is determined during final course grading.

6. Messages must have content that contributes to the discussion. Messages that contain a few words and merely say “I agree with you” or something similar will not earn any credit.

7. These participation points are the easiest part of the grade to earn, and also the easiest to forget to do. Don’t forget!

8. Copying and pasting from any source, even if the student cites the source, is not acceptable. They should study the source document and paraphrase what they learned when typing a message.

9. Attaching a document with your discussions response is not acceptable and you will not receive credit for it. When you attach your discussions in this manner some of your peers may not be able to access it due to software issues. In order to be counted you MUST put your response directly into the discussion.

To earn 100% on the discussion portion of the class participation grade, the student must do the following by the dates published in the Course Calendar:

1. Post an introductory message to the class in the Introductions forum.

2. Post one substantial message in each discussion forum at any time during the week in which that forum is scheduled. (If two forums are scheduled during the same week, then one message must be posted in each forum.)

3. Some extra credit will be given for substantial messages that are posted no later than Wednesday of the week they are due. This is to encourage students to post early in the week, which will help generate a better class discussion within each forum.

4. If no substantial messages are posted on time in a forum, it will not be possible to earn 100% for that forum. A small number of messages that are not substantial but do say more than “I agree” or “Good Post!” and are more than 1 or 2 sentences in length will earn some part credit, but not very much.

   Academic Honesty & Plagiarism

   • Students are expected to respect and uphold the standards of honesty in submitting written work to instructors. Though occurring in many forms, plagiarism in essence involves the presentation of another person’s work as if it were the work of the presenter.
   • Any cheating or plagiarism will result in disciplinary action to be determined by the instructor based on the severity and nature of the offense. It is the student’s responsibility to review the College’s policy on Academic Honesty.

   Special Needs

   • If you have any special needs or requirements pertaining to this course, please discuss them with the instructor early in the term.
   • If you have special needs as addressed by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and need assistance, please notify the Office for Students with Disabilities at 305-809-3292 via email at: karla.malsheimer@fkcc.edu or the course instructor immediately.
   • Reasonable efforts will be made to accommodate your special needs.

Copyright Notice

The materials and content provided in this course is intended only for registered Florida Keys Community College students who have paid their tuition and fees to attend this course. Materials that are affected include, but are not limited to, text, still images, audio recordings, video recordings, simulations, animations, diagrams,
charts, and graphs. Every effort has been made to insure these materials are not disseminated to anyone beyond those who have legally registered for this course. Download, revision, or distribution of course material with anyone other than registered classmates and the instructor is strictly prohibited.

Students are expected to familiarize themselves with FKCC Policies, which can be found in the current Student Handbook.

Class Contract

The Class Contract assignment is my method of ensuring you know what you should expect from me, and what I expect from you. By returning the Class Contract to me, you are acknowledging that you:

a. Understand the policies detailed in this Syllabus.
b. Understand the expectations and due dates listed in the Course Calendar and Assessment Measures.
c. Understand that you will be held accountable to the standards published in this document.
d. The Class Contract must be submitted via the dropbox by the date published in the Course Calendar and Assessment Measures.

By signing my name I acknowledge the above.

Print Name: ___________________________ Date: ______________

Signature: ________________________________